



During this anniversary year, the Consulate General recognizes the unique contributions of U.S. citizens in strengthening this friendship.

For this holiday season, the Consulate honors John and Martha Butt, for their long-standing service to Thai students at Prince Royal's College and Payap University.

John and Martha are long-time Chiang Mai residents, having met while teaching at Prince Royal's College. They married there in the College Chapel in 1965. John has taught for many years at the McGilvary College of Divinity at Payap University, and was the founding director of Payap's Institute for the Study of Religion and Culture (later Institute of Religion, Culture and Peace). The Institute fosters interreligious and intrareligious understanding. John's academic focus is on Thai Buddhism.

Martha has worked at Payap University for nearly 30 years in the area of International Affairs, where she helped establish international programs and raise funds. She worked closely with such organizations as the School for International Training, Elderhostel (now Road Scholar), and the International Partnership for Service Learning (all in the USA). She also served as President of the PTA at Chiang Mai International School.

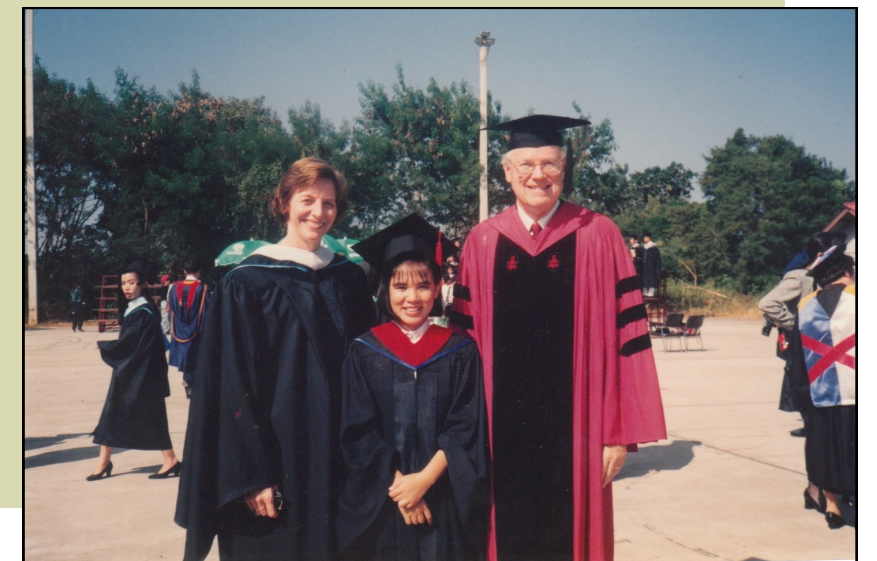


A Chiang Mai wedding for the Butts at Prince Royal's College, Chiang Mai, 1965.



John and Martha Butt with their Prince Royal's students from 1966 in December 2013 at the Empress Hotel.

Although officially retired in 2008, they remain active supporters and advisors at Payap and with other organizations, encouraging student and teacher exchanges.



Martha and John at a past Payap graduation ceremony.